



U.S. Department of Justice
Office of Information Policy
Sixth Floor
441 G Street, NW
Washington, DC 20530-0001

Telephone: (202) 514-3642

CJ Ciaramella
DEPT MR 78936
411-A Highland Avenue
Somerville, MA 02144-2516
78936-56859283@requests.muckrock.com

Re: Appeal No. DOJ-AP-2020-000092
Request No. 2019-05687
MWH:JKD

VIA: Email

Dear CJ Ciaramella:

You appealed from the action of the Federal Bureau of Prisons (BOP) on your Freedom of Information Act request for all records to or from MCC New York Warden Shirley Skipper-Scott containing "Epstein" between July 6, 2019, and August 12, 2019. I note that your appeal concerns BOP's full denial of your request.

After carefully considering your appeal, I am affirming, on partly modified grounds, BOP's action on your request. The FOIA provides for disclosure of many agency records. At the same time, Congress included in the FOIA nine exemptions from disclosure that provide protection for important interests such as personal privacy, privileged communications, and certain law enforcement activities. BOP properly withheld this information in full because it is protected from disclosure under the FOIA pursuant to 5 U.S.C. § 552(b)(7)(A) and it is reasonably foreseeable that disclosure of this information would harm the interests protected by this provision. This provision concerns records or information compiled for law enforcement purposes the release of which could reasonably be expected to interfere with enforcement proceedings.¹

Please be advised that this Office's decision was made only after a full review of this matter. Your appeal was assigned to an attorney with this Office who thoroughly reviewed and analyzed your appeal, your underlying request, and the action of BOP in response to your request.

If you are dissatisfied with my action on your appeal, the FOIA permits you to file a lawsuit in federal district court in accordance with 5 U.S.C. § 552(a)(4)(B).

¹ Please be advised that because this Office has determined that Exemption (7)(A) protects the disclosure of these records in full, the applicability of the other exemptions cited by BOP has not been reviewed on appeal.

For your information, the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS) offers mediation services to resolve disputes between FOIA requesters and Federal agencies as a non-exclusive alternative to litigation. Using OGIS services does not affect your right to pursue litigation. The contact information for OGIS is as follows: Office of Government Information Services, National Archives and Records Administration, Room 2510, 8601 Adelphi Road, College Park, Maryland 20740-6001; email at ogis@nara.gov; telephone at 202-741-5770; toll free at 1-877-684-6448; or facsimile at 202-741-5769. If you have any questions regarding the action this Office has taken on your appeal, you may contact this Office's FOIA Public Liaison for your appeal. Specifically, you may speak with the undersigned agency official by calling (202) 514-3642.

Sincerely,

10/25/2019

X 

Matthew W. Hurd
Acting Chief, Administrative Appeals Staff
Signed by: MATTHEW HURD